PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY.
(*OFFICIAL REPORT.*)

SECOND ASSEMBLY.

EIGHTH SESSION 1941/1116.

Wednessday, the 22nd January 1941/9th Makaram 1116.

The Travancore Sri Mulam Assembly met in the Legislative Chamber at eleven of the clock with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President, in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following Members took the oath and signed the rolls :

1. Mr. D. Gainneos,
2. ,, D. C. Joseph,
3. ,, S. K. Pillai,
4. ,, Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai,
5. ,, C. Kumara Das,
6. ,, P. S. Kuppuswami Aiyar,
7. ,, K. Madhava Kurup,
8. ,, A. Narayanan Tampi,
9. ,, P. G. Narayanan Unnithan,
10. ,, Rajyaseva Pravina M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar and
11. ,, Mr. S. Sundararajan.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Production of sugar from palmyra fibre.

1. * **MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have investigated the possibility of producing sugar from palmyra juice as a cottage industry ; and

(*b*) whether there is any handy machine for the purpose ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Director of Industries*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A centrifugal machine is required for separating the crystals when they are formed. It would, however, not be economical to instal one in a cottage, where the quantity that may have to be dealt with is very small.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know the approximate cost of installing a machine in a cottage ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: About Rs. 150.

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MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR. May I know the quantity that is required per head?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: For a day of six hours, about 300 lbs of jaggery will be required.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*): May I know whether any enquiry has been made as to the possible cottage industries that could be done with the palmyra juice?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Apart from toddy and jaggery, there are not many other industries that could be carried on with the juice.

State Congress and the Dewan.

2. ✱MR. G. VELU PILLAI (*Karunagapally* cum *Kartikapally*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any representative of the Travancore State Congress has interviewed the Dewan recently in connection with the State Congress activities in Travancore; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, the purpose and the result of the interview?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The purpose is not known. The result is that the State Congress Office at Ernakulam has been disbanded and that a certain number of detenues and other incarcerated persons have been released.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know, Sir, at whose request the interview was granted?

PRESIDENT: As it is a matter concerning an interview with me, I may at once mention that a request was made by an old friend of mine, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, for an interview. I met him and he wanted to know the policy of this Government with regard to releases. That was explained to him, namely, that it was and is the policy of Government not to detain persons not engaged in nor likely to engage in subversive activities. Thereafter I was asked whether I would have any objection to meet any member of the State Congress. I said that at no time had I any objection to meet any member of the State Congress or any other Congress or organisation in the world. Thereupon one or two interviews took place and that is all that there is to it.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know whether there was any talk about constitutional reforms?

PRESIDENT: There was some proposal about constitutional reforms. But no constitutional reform was promised or can be promised until after a consultation with all the elements in the country which deserve to be consulted and not merely one group.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know whether the State Congress has consented to withdraw its agitation?

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